Washington, **DC** – Congressman Bruce Braley (D-lowa) released the following statement today after news outlets reported 228 million lowa eggs have been recalled in connection to a salmonella outbreak.

"This is a very serious situation and I'm glad to hear Wright County Egg is cooperating fully with the Food and Drug Administration to conduct a thorough and swift investigation into this problem," Braley said. "Wright County Egg is conducting a voluntary recall because they understand the gravity of this issue and I applaud them for taking the appropriate steps to correct any problems that might have occurred in their facilities. When it comes to food safety, it's critical that we rule out all possible causes of contamination to prevent any unnecessary illness or death. Parents and consumers should pay close attention to the eggs they've purchased that might be involved in this recall. Iowa is America's largest egg producer and it's critical that we answer these questions as quickly as possible so that we can ensure the safety of America's families while also allowing this cornerstone of lowa's economy to move forward."

In 2009, as Vice Chairman of the Oversight & Investigations Subcommittee, Braley questioned FDA officials and corporate leaders about food safety following the salmonella outbreak at Peanut Corporation of America. Additionally, he has helped lead efforts in the House of Representatives to improve food safety in America.

According to Wright County Egg, eggs affected by this recall were distributed to <u>food</u> wholesalers, distribution centers and foodservice companies in California, Illinois, Missouri, Colorado, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa. These companies distribute nationwide.

Eggs are packaged under the following brand names: Lucerne, Albertson, Mountain Dairy, Ralph's, Boomsma's, Sunshine, Hillandale, Trafficanda, Farm Fresh, Shoreland, Lund, Dutch Farms and Kemps. Eggs are packed in varying sizes of cartons (6-egg cartons, dozen egg cartons, 18-egg cartons) with Julian dates ranging from 136 to 225 and plant numbers 1026, 1413 and 1946. Dates and codes can be found stamped on the end of the egg carton. The plant number begins with the letter P and then the number. The Julian date follows the plant number, for example: P-1946 223.

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